(c) The registration of Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) is in force from 03.12.2004. No definite number can be specified as the applications have to go through different stages in the Indian Missions and posts abroad/ State Governments/Central Government.

(d) Question does not arises.

Commission for Centre-State Relations

837. SHRIMATI S.G INDIRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had decided to set up one more Commission to take a new look at the Centre-State relations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there was no consensus in the Inter-State Council on many recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has decided to set up a new Commission on Centre-State relations which will consist of a Chairman and four full time Members having experience and expertise in respect of Centre-State relations, with a tenure of two years.

(c) and (d) As per the Procedure of the Council for conduct of its business as stipulated in para 5 (e) of the Presidential Order dated May 28,1990, "all questions which may come up for consideration of the Council at a meeting shall be decided by consensus and the decision of the Chairman as to consensus shall be final". Accordingly, the recommendations made by the Sarkaria Commission were also decided by consensus in the Inter-State Council.

Image of India as Soft-State

†838. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of HOME' AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that consequent upon the hijack of IC-814 in 1999, India has got the image as a soft-State;

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.